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LANSING – Criminals who forge state ID cards will now be subject to the same penalties as those who forge driver's licenses under legislation signed into law last week, said bill sponsors Sen. Michelle McManus and Sen. Alan Sanborn.

Stiffer penalties for forged state IDs become law

"I'm glad the governor took the next step in protecting Michigan citizens by signing these bills," said McManus, R-Lake Leelanau. "Forging state IDs is just as serious as forging driver's licenses and will now be subject to the same penalties."

Previously, penalties for forging driver's licenses generally were more severe than for state ID cards. Public Acts 149 and 150 increase the penalties for forging state ID cards to match those for forging driver's licenses and eliminate inconsistencies between these nearly identical crimes.

"These new laws send a clear message that forging state identification cards will not be tolerated," said Sanborn, R-Richmond Township. "Residents deserve the protection of their identification and personal information, which these new laws will help to ensure."

The new laws will take effect immediately.

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